

In the Claims

1-9 (cancelled)

10. (new) A device for damping water hammer in hydraulic accumulators formed as a component thereof, comprising:

a valve housing mountable in an accumulator housing, said valve housing having a fluid inlet connectable to an accumulator interior and an outlet end connectable to an accumulator connection to a hydraulic network;

a valve component configured as a valve piston movably mounted in said valve housing between a first position providing a throttle in fluid flow between said fluid inlet and said outlet end and a second position essentially releasing that fluid flow, said valve component having a central channel, said central channel having at least one transfer area of a specified cross section and a first funnel-shaped enlargement at a first end of said central channel opening in a direction of one of said fluid inlet and said outlet end;

web extensions on one end of said valve piston;

cylindrical guide surfaces in said valve housing slidably receiving and guiding an outer circumferential surface of said valve component;

a first level sealing surface on an end of said valve component facing said fluid inlet and engaging a level contact surface on said valve housing surrounding said fluid inlet in said first position; and

a second level sealing surface on said valve component adjoining said web extensions.

11. (new) A device according to claim 10 wherein

second funnel-shaped enlargement is provided at a second end of said central channel opposite said first end thereof and opening on the other of said fluid inlet and said outlet end.

12. (new) A device according to claim 10 wherein

said first and second level sealing surfaces and said cylindrical guide surfaces delimit fluid outlets.

13. (new) A device according to claim 10 wherein

said transfer area has an axial length forming more than one-half of an entire axial length of said valve component including said web extensions.

14. (new) A device according to claim 11 wherein

said funnel-shaped enlargements extend from said level sealing surfaces.

15. (new) A device according to claim 10 wherein

valve housing comprises a threading on said outer circumferential surface thereof for attaching said valve housing to the accumulator housing.